

Message Text

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ACTION SS-15

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FM AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5066

C O N F I D E N T I A L KATHMANDU 1768

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: NP, PFOR

SUBJECT: YOUTH PARA

REF: STATE 70302

I. A. YOUTH CATEGORIES

15 PERCENT YOUNG POLITICAL LEADERS

10 PERCENT YOUNG MILITARY OFFICERS

40 PERCENT YOUNG BUREAUCRATS

25 PERCENT EDUCATION

10 PERCENT YOUNG LEADERSHIP AMONG DISSIDENT MOVEMENTS

B. RATIONALE: UNDER ITS UNIQUE PANCHAYAT SYSTEM, NEPAL' S
POLITY IS ESSENTIALLY AUTHORITARIAN, WITH THE KING THE UN
CHALLENGED CENTER OF POWER. WEIGHTED GROUPS LISTED ABOVE
ARE THOSE WHICH PRODUCE " LEADERS," DEFINED IN THIS CONTEXT
AS THOSE WHO INFLUENCE THE KING AND THUS PARTICIPATE IN
POLICY FORMULATION. HEAVIEST WEIGHT HAS BEEN GIVEN TO
YOUNG BUREAUCRATS BECAUSE IN FIRST YEAR ON THRONE YOUNG
MONARCH HAS DEMONSTRATED PREFERENCE TO DRAW MOST OF HIS
ADVISERS FROM YOUNGER MEMBERS THIS CATEGORY (WHICH INCLUDES
MEMBERS OF PALACE STAFF). DISSIDENT YOUTH LEADERSHIP IS
INCLUDED BECAUSE EVEN THOUGH BANNED SINCE 1960, IT IS
CONCEIVABLE THAT OPPOSITION GROUPS COULD BECOME SIGNIFICANT
FACTIONS, ALTHOUGH NOT IN SHORT RUN. WHILE ARMY
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OFFICERS IN PAST WERE FREQUENTLY TRANSFERRED TO HIGH GOVT POSITIONS LATE IN THEIR CAREERS THIS POLICY HAS CHANGED AND GON MILITARY NOW NORMALLY SLIP INTO OBSCURITY UPON RETIREMENT. ACTIVE ARMY PERSONNEL ARE PROHIBITED FROM POLITICAL CONTACT OR ACTIVITY.

C. THERE ARE NO YOUTH GROUPS OR INSTITUTIONS IN NEPAL EXPECTED TO HAVE ANY SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ON U. S. INTERESTS IN THE NEXT TWO TO FOUR YEARS. OF THE CATEGORIES LISTED ABOVE UNDER A, ONLY THE " YOUNG BUREAUCRATS" ARE EXPECTED TO HAVE A SIGNIFICANT SHORT- TERM IMPACT.

II. A. OBJECTIVES

25 PERCENT - ASSURE ACCESS TO KEY FUTURE LEADERSHIP AND DEVELOP RELATIONSHIPS WITH OTHER POTENTIAL FUTURE LEADERS.
5 PERCENT - THROUGH DEVELOPMENT OF YOUTH CONTACTS, UNDERSTAND AND FOLLOW INCIPIENT POLITICAL AND SOCIAL TRENDS IN NEPALESE SOCIETY.
15 PERCENT - PROMOTE UNDERSTANDING OF BROAD U. S. GOALS AND POLICIES AND OF SPECIFIC U. S. INTERESTS IN NEPAL.
5 PERCENT - FOSTER CLIMATE CONDUCIVE TO BILATERAL TRADE AND U. S. INVESTMENTS IN FUTURE YEARS.
35 PERCENT - FOSTER CLIMATE CONDUCIVE TO ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT.
15 PERCENT - ENCOURAGE PRAGMATIC, NON- IDEOLOGICAL APPROACHS TO NATIONAL PROBLEMS.

B. RATIONALE: THE PRINCIPAL THRUST OF OUR OPERATIONAL EFFORT IN NEPAL IS DIRECTED TOWARDS THE TWO DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVES WHICH APPEAR AT THE END OF THE FOREGOING LIST. THE FIRST FOUR OBJECTIVES ARE DIRECTED TOWARDS SPECIFIC BILATERAL U. S. INTERESTS. NOWHERE DO WE LIST " IDEOLOGICAL" OBJECTIVES SUCH AS " ENCOURAGING COMMITMENT TO DEMOCRATIC PROCESSES" AS PRIOR EXPERIENCE HAS SHOWN THAT SUCH DIRECT EFFORTS ARE ALMOST CERTAIN TO BE COUNTERPRODUCTIVE, BOTH IN TERMS OF OUR DIRECT BILATERAL INTERESTS IN THE COUNTRY AND IN TERMS OF OUR BROADER AREA OBJECTIVES OF STABILITY AND PROGRESS. NEPALESE RESPECT THE U. S. TODAY, NO ONLY FOR ITS POWER BUT FOR ITS IDEALS, AND SEEK WHERE POSSIBLE TO ACCOMMODATE TO OUR BILATERAL INTERESTS
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BECAUSE, WHILE WE HELP PROVIDE THE KNOW- HOW AND RESOURCES THEY NEED TO DEVELOP, WE DO NOT PRESS THEM DIRECTLY REGARDING THEIR DOMESTIC POLITICAL CHOICES. WE DO NOT WISH TO BECOME INVOLVED IN DOMESTIC POLITICS AND BELIEVE NEPAL WILL EVOLVE TOWARDS A DEMOCRATIC POLITY ONLY AS RAPIDLY AS IT IS DEVELOPED ECONOMICALLY AND SOCIALLY.

III. RESOURCES

5 PERCENT CU INTERNATIONAL VISITOR GRANTS.
5. PERCENT CU EDUCATIONAL TRAVEL GRANTS.
15 PERCENT CU FULL YEAR ACADEMIC GRANTS TO FOREIGN STUDENTS.
10 PERCENT AMERICAN STUDENTS.
15 PERCENT AMERICAN PROFESSORS (LECTURING).
5 PERCENT CU SHORT- TERM AMERICAN GRANTEEES.
30 PERCENT AID TRAINING PROGRAMS.
5 PERCENT MILITARY TRAINING PROGRAMS.
10 PERCENT USIA CULTURAL AND INFORMATIONAL PROGRAMMING.

A. AMERICAN ATHLETIC COACHES WOULD BE WELCOMED BY NEPAL SPORTS COUNCIL. THIS WOULD ENABLE US TO ENLARGE OUR CONTACTS WITH YOUTH AND THE ARMY WHILE CONTRIBUTING TO AN ACTIVITY WHICH NEPALESE BELIEVE HELPS THEIR NATION BUILDING.

B. ARTICULATE AND EDUCATED NEPALI YOUTH HAVE A WIDE SPECTRUM OF FOREIGN GOVERNMENT ASSISTED TRAVEL OPPORTUNITIES, PRIMARILY COMING FROM COMMUNIST GOVERNMENTS. THEY ARE SOMEWHAT JADED BY THIS PHENOMENON. WE BELIEVE TRAVEL AND TRAINING PROVIDED BY APPROPRIATE ENTITIES IN THE PRIVATE U. S. SECTOR COULD HAVE MORE CREDIBILITY THAN USG SUPPORTED PROGRAMS OF A SIMILAR NATURE.

C. MANY PCVS HAVE SUCCEEDED IN ESTABLISHING MEANINGFUL ASSOCIATIONS WITH NEPALESE YOUTH; THE U. S. IMAGE HAS THEREBY BEEN ENHANCED AND THE OVERALL OBJECTIVES ASSISTED.

IV. RELATIVE IMPORTANCE OF " YOUTH"

A. LOW
B. AS NOTED ABOVE, NEPAL IS AN AUTHORITARIAN POLITY.
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IN SUCH AN ENVIRONMENT " YOUTH," AS A GENERIC ENTITY, HAS A MINIMAL ROLE. YOUNG PEOPLE ARE IMPORTANT BECAUSE THE YOUNG (27) KING CHOOSES TO DRAW MOST OF HIS CLOSE ADVISERS FROM THE RANKS OF THE YOUNGER BUREAUCRATS. ONCE SUCH AN INDIVIDUAL IS SELECTED, HOWEVER, HE BECOMES A MEMBER OF THE EVOLVING ESTABLISHMENT AND THE FACT OF HIS RELATIVE BIOLOGICAL AGE BECOMES IRRELEVANT.

C. 1. (A) 10 PERCENT OF TIME OF ABOUT 12 MISSION OFFICERS.
(B) CONTACT WORK 45 PERCENT
REPORTING 20 PERCENT
PROGRAM WORK 35 PERCENT

(C) STATE 25 PERCENT
USIS 30 PERCENT
AID 30 PERCENT

DOD 10 PERCENT

2. PROGRAM RESOURCES:

60 PERCENT OF CU BUDGET

20 PERCENT OF USIS BUDGET

40 PERCENT OF AID BUDGET (INCIDENTAL TO OTHER OBJECTIVES)

80 PERCENT OF MAP BUDGET.

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